

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH

### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to The Shiloh Baptist Church, its many congregants and The Reverend James B. Rodgers. During the month of October, 2006, they are celebrating Shiloh Baptist Church's 150th Anniversary, a truly remarkable achievement. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Shiloh Baptist Church family and Dr. James B. Rodgers, Pastor on this momentous occasion.

The Shiloh Baptist Church is located in Sacramento, California and was first organized in 1856 as the Siloam Baptist Church. Shiloh is the oldest African-American church west of the Mississippi River and the first Baptist Church organized by African-Americans in Sacramento. Its current faithful leader is Dr. James B. Rodgers, but Shiloh has been shepherded by 27 pastoral leaders during its 150 years.

When Shiloh was first conceived it had no facilities in which to hold religious services, so it forged a strong relationship with the Chinese Americans in the area. As a result, an offer was extended to Shiloh to hold religious services at the Chinese Chapel, located at historic Sixth and H Streets in Sacramento.

The Shiloh Baptist Church is no ordinary church. It has overcome many obstacles through faith and determination. It overcame foreclosure in the 1860s; significant reduction in congregant membership because of relocations; destruction of the church facility by fire in 1861 and 1905; and the inability to secure building loans on several occasions. However, today Shiloh stands firm as a testament to the strong faith, perseverance, determination, character and courage of its founders and early congregations.

With the outstanding leadership of Pastor Emeritus Willie P. Cooke, Shiloh has provided dedicated service to the citizens of the Sacramento region through its 26 year history. Shiloh provides numerous services through its many ministries and participates in a multitude of community based programs. In recognition of these services Shiloh has deservedly received numerous Presidential, Congressional, Gubernatorial and State Legislative commendations since its inception.

In honor of its 150th anniversary, Shiloh Baptist Church began a week long celebration on Monday, October 16, 2006, culminating on Sunday, October 22, 2006. The celebration's theme takes inspiration from Ezekiel 34:26, "Shiloh, A Godly Heritage: Blessed Future."

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to thank and congratulate the Shiloh Baptist Church for its 150 years of invaluable service to the greater Sacramento community. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing the Shiloh Baptist Church and Dr. Rodgers continued success in all their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF PROFESSORS MARK LEWINE AND ORMOND BRATHWAITE FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

### HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Professors Mark Lewine and Ormond Brathwaite, both of Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C) located in my congressional district, who will be honored on Thursday, November 16, 2006 here in Washington, DC for their excellence in undergraduate teaching as part of the U.S. Professors of the Year awards program.

For more than 20 years Dr. Mark Lewine has remained committed to undergraduate education. During his tenure at Cuyahoga Community College, he has done much to support the teaching and learning environment. He founded and directed the Center for Community Research at the college and was active in promoting the Society for Anthropology in Community Colleges. He is active with the American Anthropological Association, serving on its Advisory Committee. Dr. Lewine regularly gives informative and passionate presentation about undergraduate teaching and the importance of providing opportunities to non-traditional students. For his work, Tri-C has awarded him with the College's Besse Award recognizing the energy, creativity, discipline and high expectations he brings to his teaching.

Dr. Ormond Brathwaite has consistently demonstrated effective teaching both in and out of the classroom. Dr. Brathwaite holds a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the City University of New York. He began his career at Cuyahoga Community College in 1994 as an assistant professor in chemistry and biology. Dr. Brathwaite is committed to student learning and student success. He serves as a faculty mentor to Bridges to Success in the Sciences students and has been very instrumental in the success of the program. Additionally, Dr. Brathwaite was a recipient of the NISOD Excellence Award in 2004 and received the National Role Model Mentor Award in 2003.

Therefore it is my pleasure, on behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District to recognize Professors Mark Lewine and Ormond Brathwaite—two gifted educators whose commitment to providing quality education to all is to be commended.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LEAP ACADEMY LANCER BASKETBALL TEAM

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the LEAP Academy Lancer Basketball Team on their first South Jersey Group I championship.

The Lancer Basketball team completed their season 18–7–0. The LEAP Academy basketball program, in its second year, is affiliated with Rutgers-Camden University. Much of their

schedule consists of playing teams from the Philadelphia area and Central and North Jersey.

Coach Marco Morcos led his team to a phenomenal season that included a seven game winning streak and defeating teams like Bishop Eustace from the South Jersey region. The team included four seniors, Earl Knight, Nathaniel Cooper, William Mace, and Lance James; four juniors, Crawford John, Michael Craig, Chauncey Gillian, and Jamal Baylor-ali; two sophomores, Gary Lyons and Dylan Talley; and four freshmen, Jeremy Delgado, Orlando Hidalgo, Tyrone Parker, and Eric Johnson. Scoring leaders of the team include William Mace (196), Lance James (191), and Dylan Talley (190). Assists leaders include Lance James (103), Crawford John (42), and Dylan Talley (34). Blocks leaders include William Mace (40), Crawford John (19), and Earl Knight (10). Rebound leaders include William Mace (161), Crawford John (121) and Dylan Talley (89). Steals leaders include Crawford John (54), Lance James (40), and William Mace (26). Three point field goal leaders include Lance James (17), Dylan Talley (17), and Crawford John (12).

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to the LEAP Academy Basketball Team for an exceptional 2005–2006 season and on their championship. I wish the entire team and school the best of luck in their future athletic, personal, and professional lives.

TRIBUTE TO THE GATEWAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER, INC.

### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 15, 2006*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the inauguration of the new Main Facility of the Gateway Community Health Center, Inc., on October 20th, 2006, in the City of Laredo.

The Gateway Community Health Center, Inc., first began as a Migrant Health Clinic administered by the Laredo-Webb County Health Department in 1963, and has rapidly grown to one of the largest community health centers in South Texas in providing a variety of much-needed services to underserved residents of Webb County. Today, the Gateway Community Health Center operates over five sites in Webb County, serving over 18,007 residents of Webb County in 2005 alone. The new facility, which is being inaugurated today, is expected to increase the number of users in late 2006 and 2007.

The continued growth of the population in Webb County present challenges for the Gateway Community Health Center, Inc., but the dedication of its staff, especially that of Mr. Miguel Trevino, the C.E.O., will be able to make sure these challenges are met with the support they have from the community. The new Main Facility will help Gateway in providing more services and expanding its outreach to the residents of Webb County. I am very proud of the staff of Gateway Community Health Center, Inc., and their partners in making this dream possible for Laredo and Webb County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to honor the inauguration of the new